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SECOND COMMITTEE
Agenda item 96 (e)

ENVIRONMENT AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT: IMPLEMENTATION OF THE OUTCOME OF THE GLOBAL CONFERENCE ON THE SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT OF SMALL ISLAND DEVELOPING STATES

Draft resolution submitted by the Vice-Chairman of the Committee, Mr. Conor Murphy (Ireland), on the basis of informal consultations held on draft resolution A/C.2/50/L.32

Implementation of the outcome of the Global Conference on the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 49/122 of 19 December 1994 on the Global Conference on the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States,

Recalling also its resolution 49/100 of 19 December 1994 on specific measures in favour of island developing countries,

Reaffirming that, because the development options of small island developing States are limited, there are special challenges to devising and implementing sustainable development plans, and that small island developing States will be constrained in meeting such challenges without the cooperation of the international community,

1. Notes with appreciation the report of the Secretary-General 1/ on action taken by the organs, organizations and bodies of the United Nations system to implement the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of

1/ A/50/422 and Add.1.

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Agenda item 97 (b)

OPERATIONAL ACTIVITIES FOR DEVELOPMENT: ECONOMIC AND TECHNICAL COOPERATION AMONG DEVELOPING COUNTRIES

Draft resolution submitted by the Vice-Chairman of the Committee, Mr. Max Stadthagen (Nicaragua), on the basis of informal consultations held on draft resolution A/C.2/50/L.24

Economic and technical cooperation among developing countries and a United Nations conference on South-South cooperation

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming its resolutions 33/134 of 19 December 1978, in which it endorses the Buenos Aires Plan of Action for Promoting and Implementing Technical Cooperation among Developing Countries, 1/ and 46/159 of 19 December 1991 on technical cooperation among developing countries, as well as other relevant resolutions of the General Assembly on economic and technical cooperation among developing countries,

Reaffirming also its resolution 49/96 of 19 December 1994 on a United Nations conference on South-South cooperation,

Recalling Economic and Social Council resolution 1992/41 of 30 July 1992 in which the Council called upon all parties in the development effort to make concerted, planned and vigorous endeavours to benefit from utilization of the capacities of developing countries by giving their full support and first

1/ Report of the United Nations Conference on Technical Cooperation among Developing Countries, Buenos Aires, 30 August-12 September 1978 (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.78.II.A.11 and corrigendum), chap. I.

consideration to the use of the modality of technical cooperation among developing countries,

Taking note of the decisions and recommendations contained in the Final Document of the Eleventh Conference of Heads of State or Government of the Non-Aligned Countries, 2/ held in Cartagena de Indias, Colombia, from 18 to 20 October 1995,

Bearing in mind the Ministerial Declaration of the Group of 77, 3/ adopted at the Nineteenth Annual Meeting of the Ministers for Foreign Affairs of the Group of 77, held in New York on 29 September 1995, which emphasized the importance of South-South cooperation, particularly the convening of a United Nations conference on South-South cooperation no later than 1997,

Reaffirming that South-South cooperation constitutes an important element of international cooperation for development as well as an essential basis for national and collective self-reliance and a means of promoting the integration of developing countries into the world economy,

Reaffirming also that South-South cooperation is not a substitute for, but is complementary to North-South cooperation,

Noting with satisfaction the increase in economic and technical cooperation among developing countries reported by both developing countries and the United Nations development system,

Recognizing the need for the international community to support the developing countries in optimizing opportunities for expanding South-South cooperation,

Welcoming the report on new directions for technical cooperation among developing countries, 4/ prepared in response to General Assembly resolution 49/96 of 19 December 1994, whose recommendations were endorsed by the High-level Committee on the Review of Technical Cooperation among Developing Countries, at its ninth session, 5/ and subsequently endorsed by the Economic and Social Council,

Noting with satisfaction the launching of the South Centre as an intergovernmental organization, and its important contribution to the promotion and strengthening of South-South cooperation,

Recognizing that recent advances in communications technology have created new opportunities for South-South cooperation,

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2/ To be issued.

3/ A/50/518, annex.

4/ TCDC/9/3.

5/ See document A/50/39, annex I, decision 9/2.

Taking note of the report of the Intergovernmental Meeting of Experts on South-South Cooperation, 6/ convened by the Secretary-General in New York from 31 July to 4 August 1995, and of the reports of the Standing Committee on Economic Cooperation among Developing Countries of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development and of the High-level Committee on the Review of Technical Cooperation among Developing Countries on the work of its ninth session 7/ at which substantive issues were presented and practical modalities for strengthening South-South economic and technical cooperation at the global level were recommended,

1. Takes note of the report of the Secretary-General on the state of South-South cooperation 8/ and its supplement entitled State of South-South Cooperation: Statistical Pocket Book and Index of Cooperation Organizations, 9/ which provide a comprehensive and systematic overview and analysis of South-South cooperation worldwide and of United Nations system support for such cooperation;

2. Endorses the recommendations contained in the report on new directions for technical cooperation among developing countries 4/ which among other things call for the adoption of a more strategic orientation for technical cooperation among developing countries focusing on priority issues, such as trade and investment, debt, the environment, poverty alleviation, production and employment, and macroeconomic policy coordination, as well as education, health, the transfer of technology and rural development, which are likely to have a major development impact on a large number of developing countries;

3. Welcomes the decision of the Executive Board of the United Nations Development Programme to increase the allocation of resources for technical cooperation among developing countries during the next programming cycle;

4. Calls upon all Governments and relevant United Nations organizations, including the multilateral financial institutions, to consider increasing allocations for economic and technical cooperation among developing countries and to identify new funding modalities to promote South-South cooperation such as triangular cooperation and private sector funding;

5. Invites the United Nations Development Programme to establish a voluntary trust fund for the promotion of South-South cooperation and invites all countries to contribute to the fund;

6. Calls upon the developing countries and their institutions to increase joint efforts in technology cooperation, broader technological development such as encompasses scientific and technological management capabilities and

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6/ A/AC.246/3.

7/ See document A/50/39.

8/ A/50/340 and Add.1.

9/ United Nations publication, Sales No. E.95.II.D.18.

information networks that are demand-oriented and involve participation by users of technology or by those involved in the process of technological development, infrastructure and human resources development;

7. Welcomes the decision of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development to address at its ninth session the issue of new approaches to South-South economic cooperation, as well as the role and potential impact on development of regional economic groupings in the globalizing and liberalizing world economy;

8. Invites, in this context, the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, at its ninth session, to be held in South Africa, to consider strengthening economic and technical cooperation among developing countries as a strategy for promoting growth and development and for ensuring the effective integration of the developing countries into the world economy, and to formulate concrete policy recommendations in this regard;

9. Requests the Secretary-General to present to the General Assembly, on a biennial basis, a report entitled "State of South-South cooperation" containing a comprehensive overview and analysis of South-South economic and technical cooperation worldwide and international support in this regard, including quantitative data and indicators on all aspects of South-South cooperation as well as recommendations for strengthening such cooperation, keeping in view the importance of the proposal to convene a United Nations conference on South-South cooperation;

10. Invites all other organs, organizations and agencies of the United Nations system, in particular the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development and the regional commissions, to provide analytical and empirical material for the preparation of the above-mentioned report;

11. Decides to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-second session a sub-item entitled "Economic and technical cooperation among developing countries".

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Agenda items 96 (d) and 116

ENVIRONMENT AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT: PROTECTION OF GLOBAL CLIMATE FOR PRESENT AND FUTURE GENERATIONS OF MANKIND

PROPOSED PROGRAMME BUDGET FOR THE BIENNIUM 1996-1997

Protection of global climate for present and future generations of mankind

Programme budget implications of the draft resolution contained in document A/C.2/50/L.33

Statement submitted by the Secretary-General in accordance with rule 153 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly

1. Under the terms of operative paragraphs 2, 3, 8, 9 and 10 of the draft resolution, the General Assembly would:

"Endorse the institutional linkage between the Convention secretariat and the United Nations, as advised by the Secretary-General and adopted by the Conference of the Parties" (para. 2);

"Request the Secretary-General to review the functioning of this institutional linkage not later than 31 December 1999, in consultation with the Conference of the Parties, with a view to making such modifications as may be considered desirable by both parties and to report thereon to the General Assembly" (para. 3);

"Decide to include in the calendar of conferences and meetings for 1996-1997 the sessions of the Conference of the Parties and its subsidiary bodies envisaged for that biennium, entailing twelve weeks of conference-servicing facilities" (para. 8);

"Request the Secretary-General to make the necessary arrangements to include in the calendar of conferences and meetings for the biennium 1998-1999 those sessions of the Conference of the Parties and its subsidiary bodies that the Conference may need to convene in that period" (para. 9);

"Take note of the transitional arrangement for administrative support to the Convention secretariat, outlined in the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of General Assembly resolution 49/120, with particular reference to the implications arising from the report of the Conference of the Parties on its first session, which should facilitate the establishment and relocation of the Convention secretariat and assist it in addressing any initial financial and personnel problems that may be encountered within this context and also take note of the financing arrangements contained in operative paragraphs 8 and 9, and request the Secretary-General to review these arrangements towards the end of the biennium 1996-1997 and to report upon the results of this review to the General Assembly at its fifty-second session" (para. 10).

2. No provision for conference servicing for the sessions of the Conference of the Parties and its subsidiary bodies was made under section 26 (Administration and management) of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1996-1997 at the time of its preparation.

3. Under the terms of operative paragraph 8, the Second Committee would recommend to the General Assembly that 12 weeks of conference servicing of the sessions of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change and its subsidiary bodies be included in the calendar of conferences and meetings for 1996-1997 at this stage. Given the reasons outlined in his report, 1/ the Secretary-General believes that the 1996 programme of meetings of the Convention bodies should be included in that calendar. As indicated in his report, an appropriation of $3,522,200 would be required under section 26E (Conference services) of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1996-1997 in order to finance the conference-servicing costs of the meetings of the Conference of the Parties and its subsidiary bodies in 1996. Such an appropriation would be subject to the guidelines for the use and operation of the contingency fund established by resolutions 41/213 and 42/211. 2/

4. With regard to 1997, since the programme of meetings has not yet been defined by the Parties, the Secretariat is not in a position to estimate at this stage the precise conference-servicing requirements.

5. The issues of an administrative and budgetary nature referred to in operative paragraphs 8 and 10 of the draft resolution will be brought to the attention of the Fifth Committee which will, as appropriate, in accordance with rule 153 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly and bearing in mind the provisions of resolution 45/248, section II, of 21 December 1990, provide its views to the General Assembly.

6. Issues relating to future bienniums will be dealt with in the context of the proposed programme budgets for those bienniums.

Notes

1/ A/50/716/Add.1, paras. 3 and 4.

2/ Ibid., para. 6.

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Agenda item 95 (a)

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT AND INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC COOPERATION: TRADE AND DEVELOPMENT

Draft resolution submitted by the Vice-Chairman of the Committee, Mr. Conor Murphy (Ireland), on the basis of informal consultations held on draft resolution A/C.2/50/L.20

Ninth session of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 1995 (XIX) of 30 December 1964, as amended, on the establishment of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development as an organ of the General Assembly,

Reaffirming its resolution 47/183 of 22 December 1992 in which it, inter alia, emphasized the importance of "A New Partnership for Development: The Cartagena Commitment", 1/

Expressing its satisfaction with the early and unanimous agreement reached by the Trade and Development Board, at the second part of its forty-first session, on the development-oriented provisional agenda for the ninth session of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, 2/ pursuant to which, under the unifying theme of "Promoting growth and sustainable development in a globalizing and liberalizing world economy", the Conference will be addressing the following topics:

1/ See Proceedings of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, Eighth Session, Report and Annexes (TD/364/Rev.1) (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.93.11.D.5), part one, sect. A.

2/ See document A/50/15 (vol. I), chap. I, sect. A.

(a) Development policies and strategies in an increasingly interdependent world economy in the 1990s and beyond:

(i) Assessment of the development problématique within the current context;

(ii) Policies and strategies for the future;

(b) Promoting international trade as an instrument for development in the post-Uruguay Round world;

(c) Promoting enterprise development and competitiveness in developing countries and countries in transition;

(d) Future work of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development in accordance with its mandate; institutional implications,

Considering that the ninth session of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development is a major intergovernmental economic and development event of 1996 within the United Nations,

Taking note of the recommendation of the Trade and Development Board that the ninth session of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development should take place in Midrand, Gauteng Province, South Africa, from 27 April to 11 May 1996, to be preceded by a one-day meeting of senior officials on 26 April 1996,

1. Welcomes with appreciation the generous offer made by the Government of South Africa to host the ninth session of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development;

2. Decides to convene the ninth session of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development in Midrand, Gauteng Province, South Africa, from 27 April to 11 May 1996, to be preceded by a one-day meeting of senior officials in the same place on 26 April 1996;

3. Stresses the crucial importance of the ninth session of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development in considering the topics of its provisional agenda, 2/ and affirms the need to achieve through the session a constructive and action-oriented outcome;

4. Calls upon all Governments to ensure their full participation, at the highest political level, at the ninth session of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development;

5. Invites the Secretary-General to establish a fund to which voluntary contributions can be made with a view to contributing to the participation of representatives of the least developed countries at the ninth session of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development;

6. Urges all Governments to take appropriate steps in order to ensure adequate preparations at the national, regional and interregional levels and within the framework of the permanent machinery of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development for the purpose of facilitating a positive and action-oriented outcome.

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Agenda item 95 (k)

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT AND INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC COOPERATION:
FOOD AND SUSTAINABLE AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT

Draft resolution submitted by the Vice-Chairman of the Committee, Mr. Conor Murphy (Ireland), on the basis of informal consultations held on draft resolution A/C.2/50/L.21

World Food Summit

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming the inalienable right to be free from hunger and malnutrition, as proclaimed in the Universal Declaration on the Eradication of Hunger and Malnutrition, 1/

Conscious that, despite the progress that has been made in ensuring global food availability, eight hundred million people remain chronically undernourished and about two hundred million children under age five suffer from protein and energy deficiencies,

Convinced of the urgent need, at the highest political level, to marshal the global consensus and commitment required for the eradication of hunger and malnutrition and the achievement of food security for all, through the adoption of concerted policies and a plan of action for implementation by Governments, international institutions and all sectors of civil society,

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1/ Report of the World Food Conference, Rome, 5-16 November 1974 (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.75.II.A.3), chap. I.

Recalling the contributions to international consensus achieved by the World Food Conference 2/ in 1974, the World Summit for Children 3/ in 1990, the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development 4/ and the International Conference on Nutrition 5/ in 1992, the International Conference on Population and Development 6/ in 1994, and the World Summit for Social Development 7/ and the Fourth World Conference on Women 8/ in 1995, as well as the agreements made at other international conferences and summits in recent years,

Recognizing that activities to ensure food security at all levels should be carried out within the framework of sustainable development, as defined in Agenda 21, 9/ and that the World Food Summit will give due attention to the multifaceted nature of food security,

Taking note of the proposal of the Director-General of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations that the Summit should not call for new funding mechanisms or institutions,

1. Welcomes the decision of the Conference of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations at its twenty-eighth session to convene the World Food Summit in Rome from 13 to 17 November 1996 at the level of heads of State or Government;

2/ See Report of the World Food Conference, Rome, 5-16 November 1974 (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.75.II.A.3).

3/ See First Call for Children (New York, United Nations Children's Fund, 1990).

4/ See Report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, Rio de Janeiro, 3-14 June 1992, vol. I, Resolutions Adopted by the Conference (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.93.I.8 and corrigenda).

5/ See International Conference on Nutrition, Rome, December 1992, Final Report of the Conference and World Declaration and Plan of Action for Nutrition (Rome, Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, 1992).

6/ See Report of the International Conference on Population and Development, Cairo, 5-13 September 1994 (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.95.XIII.18).

7/ See Report of the World Summit for Social Development, Copenhagen, 6-12 March 1995 (A/CONF.166/9).

8/ See Report of the Fourth World Conference on Women, Beijing, 4-15 September 1995 (A/CONF.177/20).

9/ Report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, Rio de Janeiro, 3-14 June 1992, vol. I, Resolutions Adopted by the Conference (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.93.I.8 and corrigenda), resolution 1, annex II.

2. Invites Governments to participate actively in Summit preparations and to be represented at the level of heads of State or Government;

3. Invites all relevant United Nations and other intergovernmental organizations, including international and regional financial institutions, as well as non-governmental organizations and the private sector, to cooperate actively with the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations in preparing for the Summit;

4. Invites the international community to make substantial contributions on a voluntary basis to the special trust fund established by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations in order to facilitate the preparations for and the holding of the Summit as well as to facilitate the preparations for effective participation of representatives of developing countries, in particular the least developed countries, both at the sessions of the Committee on World Food Security of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations to be held in January and September 1996 as preparatory meetings and at the Summit itself;

5. Invites the Director-General of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations to submit to the General Assembly, at its fifty-second session, through the Economic and Social Council, a report on the outcome of the Summit, including actions to be taken to follow up the outcome of the Summit at all appropriate levels.

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ENVIRONMENT AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT:
DESERTIFICATION AND DROUGHT

Draft resolution submitted by the Vice-Chairman of the Committee, Mr. Conor Murphy (Ireland), on the basis of informal consultations held on draft resolution A/C.2/50/L.29

Desertification and drought

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 48/175 of 21 December 1993 in which it recalled the decisions of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development set forth in chapter 12, entitled "Managing fragile ecosystems: combating desertification and drought", of Agenda 21 1/ and took note of the recommendation contained in paragraph 38.27 of Agenda 21 and of decision 93/33 of 18 June 1993 of the Governing Council of the United Nations Development Programme, 2/

Noting the work being undertaken under the Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee for the Elaboration of an International Convention to Combat

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1/ Report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, Rio de Janeiro, 3-14 June 1992, vol. I, Resolution Adopted by the Conference (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.93.I.8 and corrigendum), resolution 1, annex II.

2/ See Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1993, Supplement No. 15 (E/1993/35), annex I.

Desertification in Those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, Particularly in Africa,

Recalling its resolution 48/175, in which it recalled the appeals to the United Nations Development Programme and the United Nations Environment Programme to continue and strengthen their cooperation in combating desertification, notably through support for the Office to Combat Desertification and Drought (UNSO) by the joint venture programme,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of its resolution 48/175, 3/

Expressing its concern at the present level of resources available to relevant United Nations bodies, including the United Nations Development Programme/Office to Combat Desertification and Drought (UNSO), to support activities to combat desertification and mitigate the effects of drought in all affected developing countries and regions,

1. Welcomes the efforts made by the United Nations Environment Programme/United Nations Development Programme to strengthen their cooperation in combating desertification through the United Nations Environment Programme/United Nations Development Programme partnership to combat desertification;

2. Renews its appeal to Governments, regional economic integration organizations and other interested organizations, as well as non-governmental organizations, to make contributions to relevant United Nations bodies, including, the United Nations Development Programme/Office to Combat Desertification and Drought (UNSO), to strengthen their capacity to support activities to combat desertification and mitigate the effects of drought in all affected developing countries and regions;

3. Requests the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its fifty-second session a report on the implementation of the present resolution, which would be considered under one unified sub-item on the agenda under the title "Environment and sustainable development: implementation of decisions and recommendations of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development".

3/ A/50/347.

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Agenda item 95 (b)

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT AND INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC COOPERATION: HUMAN SETTLEMENTS

Draft resolution submitted by the Vice-Chairman of the Committee, Mr. Conor Murphy (Ireland), on the basis of informal consultations held on draft resolution A/C.2/50/L.30

Commission on Human Settlements

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 32/162 of 19 December 1977, in which it established the Commission on Human Settlements and its secretariat, the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat), to serve as the institutional focus for human settlements activities within the United Nations system,

Recalling also its resolution 43/181 of 20 December 1988, in which it designated the Commission on Human Settlements as the United Nations intergovernmental body responsible for coordinating, evaluating and monitoring the implementation of the Global Strategy for Shelter to the Year 2000, 1/

Recalling further its resolution 47/180 of 22 December 1992, in which it decided to convene the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II) from 3 to 14 June 1996, and requested the Secretary-General to establish an ad hoc secretariat for the Conference, which should be organizationally part of the Centre,

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1/ Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-third Session, Supplement No. 8, addendum (A/43/8/Add.1).

Noting with satisfaction the positive role played by the Centre in the implementation of the Strategy and the human settlement aspects of Agenda 21, 2/

Aware of the fact that two thirds of the entire increase in world population currently occurs in urban areas, so that by the year 2000 almost 50 per cent of the world population will be living in towns and cities, and noting with concern that high-level urbanization is straining the capacity of Governments, at both the national and the local levels, to mobilize the financial, technical and managerial resources necessary to sustain such human settlements,

1. Endorses the report of the Commission on Human Settlements on the work of its fifteenth session (Nairobi, 25 April-1 May 1995), 3/ including its resolution 15/1 on the implementation of the Global Strategy for Shelter to the Year 2000, 4/ and the report of the Commission on the implementation of the Strategy; 5/

2. Takes note with appreciation of the contribution of the Commission and of the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat) to the preparations at the national, regional and global levels for the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II), to be held in Istanbul from 3 to 14 June 1996;

3. Encourages the Centre to submit its contributions to the preparations for the Conference to the Preparatory Committee for the Conference at its third session, to be held in New York between 5 and 16 February 1996;

4. Invites the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its fifty-second session a report on the role of the Commission in the implementation and follow-up of the decisions and recommendations of the Conference.

2/ Report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, Rio de Janeiro, 3-14 June 1992, vol. I, Resolutions Adopted by the Conference (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.93.I.8 and corrigendum) resolution 1, annex II.

3/ Official Records of the General Assembly, Fiftieth Session, Supplement No. 8 (A/50/8 and corrigendum).

4/ Ibid., annex I, sect. A.

5/ Ibid., Supplement No. 8 (A/50/8/Add.1).